

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01 L-03 AID-20

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 USIA-15 PRS-01 RSR-01

/101 W

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R 151225Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5693

INFO CINCPAC

DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 12681

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS-TH

SUBJECT: NAKAE CI MODEL DISTRICT PROGRAM

PASS ALSO AID/W

REF: UDORN 085

1. THAI CONSOLIDATION PROCESS (CSOC PLAN 14/15) HAS NOW CONFRONTED THE CORE OF THE INSURGENCY IN THE NORTHEAST, IN NAKAE DISTRICT, FOR ONE YEAR. THE STATUS OF THIS, THE FIRST SYSTEMATIC RTG EFFORT TO CONTROL THE INSURGENCY AT THE VILLAGE LEVEL, AS REPORTED BY CONSUL UDORN (UDORN 085) SHOWS CONTINUED, BUT MIXED RESULTS. FORWARD MOTION IS DISPLAYED BY: (1) THE RTA CONTINUES TO PROBE THE TPLAF BASE CAMPS, (2) THE CIVIL SIDE PRESSES SCOUT PROGRAM, VILLAGE VOLUNTEER TRAINING AND POLICE PATROLLING, AND (3) RELEASE OF THE FIRST SPECIAL DEVELOPMENT FUNDS.

THE INSURGENCY IS STRESSING POLITICAL RATHER THAN MILITARY ACTIVITY AND IS SENDING CADRES FROM NAKAE TO SURROUNDING DISTRICTS. THERE IS A DECEPTIVE CALM IN NAKAE (POSSIBLY FOR REASONS SUGGESTED IN A-216, "THE THAI INSURGENCY AND THE CHINESE CONNECTION"). PREVIOUSLY, NAKAE HAS BEEN THE CENTER OF DRAMATIC VIOLENCE.

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2. RTG REALIZES THAT CSOC PLAN 14/15, DEALING WITH ONLY A

SINGLE DISTRICT IS INSUFFICIENT TO CONTAIN CT, EVEN IN THEORY. IT WAS, IN FACT, A TESTING GROUND FOR PROBLEMS OF DIRECTING, SUPERVISING AND SUPPORTING CI ACTIVITY AT THE DISTRICT LEVEL THROUGH A COORDINATED CIVIL/POLICE/MILITARY EFFORT. A SECOND SCOC PLAN IS NOW TO BE APPLIED IN A COMPLETE RING AROUND THE FAMOUS INSURGENCY CENTER IN NORTH CENTRAL THAILAND (HIN LONG KLA, THE SITE OF OPERATION PHU KWANG AND ITS SUCCESSORS). MEANWHILE, THE NAKAE PLAN IS TO BE SUPPLEMENTED BY FORMATION OF NEW VOLUNTEER DEFENSE COMPANIES IN THE PROVINCES SURROUNDING THE PHUPHAN MOUNTAINS AS A FURTHER MEANS OF COUNTERING THE SPREAD OF THE INSURGENCY THERE.

3. THE PROBLEM OF POLICE RELATIONSHIP TO AND DEFINITION OF THE GOVERNOR'S AUTHORITY CITED BY CONSUL UDORN HAS BEEN THE SUBJECT OF MEETINGS LST WEEK BETWEEN MARSHAL PRAPASS AND THE POLICE LEADERSHIP, WITH THE GOVERNOR STEADILY GAINING IN CONTROL. UNGER

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